

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for identifying a file system element for restoration comprising:
 - receiving a request to restore a file system element;
 - determining an offset ~~[[of]]~~ indicating where a record associated with the file system element is located within a collection of records, wherein the record includes metadata related to stored data to be used to restore the file system element; and
 - ~~retrieving using the determined offset to retrieve information associated with the record from the collection of records.~~
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining ~~whether~~ the type of file system element being restored ~~is associated with the first category or the second category.~~
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein a most significant bit indicates ~~whether~~ the type of file system element being restored ~~is associated with the first category or the second category.~~
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the most significant bit is stored in a table.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the first category~~ one type of file system element is a file.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the first category~~ is a file metadata file includes a collection of records for file system objects that are files.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the first category~~ one type of file system element is a directory.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the first category~~ is a directory metadata file includes a collection of records for file system objects that are files.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[9]] 1, wherein the metadata includes administrative information.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[9]] 1, wherein the metadata includes permissions.

12. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[9]] 1, wherein the metadata includes a ~~unique key~~ value that uniquely identifies the file system element associated with the file system element.

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the record is a first record and determining an offset includes ~~retrieved is metadata associated with~~ retrieving a second record associated with the file system element being restored, and wherein the second record is ~~associated with the file system element~~ that includes the offset of the first record.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the offset is stored in a table.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system element is a file.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system element is a directory.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a second offset of a second record associated with the record.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the association of the record with the file system element occurs via an inode.

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the association of the record with the file system element occurs via a [[key]] value that uniquely identifies the file system element.

20. (Currently amended) A system for identifying a file system element for restoration comprising:

a processor configured to:

receive a request to restore a file system element;

determine an offset [[of]] indicating where a record associated with the file system element is located within a collection of records, wherein the record includes metadata related to stored data to be used to restore the file system element; and

~~retrieve~~ use the determined offset to retrieve information associated with the record from the collection of records; and

a memory coupled to the processor, wherein the memory provides instructions.

21. (Currently amended) A computer program product for identifying a file system element for restoration, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for:

receiving a request to restore a file system element;

determining an offset [[of]] indicating where a record associated with the file system element is located within a collection of records, wherein the record includes metadata related to stored data to be used to restore the file system element; and

~~retrieving~~ using the determined offset to retrieve information associated with the record from the collection of records.